IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

: 10/791,270

Confirmation No.: 8940

Applicant

: Masaaki NOMURA, et al.

Filed

: March 3, 2004

TC/A.U.

: 1615

Examiner Docket No.

: To Be Assigned: 100598.53322US

Customer No.

: 23911

Title

: Pharmaceutical Hard Capsule Containing Inorganic

Substance

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Missing Parts

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.